

San Antonio Police Department

Office of the Chief * Police Media Services * 214 W. Nueva St. * San Antonio, Texas 78207 Office (210) 207-7579 * Fax (210) 207-7576 * Dispatcher (210) 207-7484



Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino Date: 11-09-02 Release No. 02-137

News Release

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On 11-09-02 at 1:39pm, officers with the San Antonio Police Department received a call for a family disturbance at 3222 NW Loop 410 #73. Upon their arrival, they contacted a male and female inside the apartment. The male quickly entered a bathroom and refused to exit while making threats towards the officers. At that time, supervisors decided to deescalate the matter and transported the female portion of the disturbance to another location, within San Antonio City limits. The male was left inside the apartment in hopes that he would calm down. Two officers were left in the area to monitor the male subject.

At 4:21pm, officers received a second call to the same apartment for another disturbance. The female had returned to the scene and was involved in a discussion with the male when another complainant called the police. When officers arrived this time, the male again got up and walked in the same bathroom and was again armed with several knives threatening suicide. SAPD hostage negotiators were again called to the scene and attempted negotiations for several hours before the decision was made to use less than lethal means to take the male into custody. It should be noted that the male was discovered to have an outstanding felony arrest warrant out of Travis County for family violence.

SAPD SWAT team members utilized pepper spray and after several minutes of allowing the spray to take effect, forcibly entered the restroom. At that time, SWAT officers determined the suspect to still be up and a threat and shot towards the male with a "Sage-gun" weapon (small baton-like projectile), striking the male. After being shot with the Sage-gun, the male suspect charged a SWAT officer with a butcher knife. Fearing for the SWAT officer's life, another SWAT officer fired his 40-caliber weapon, striking the male suspect multiple times in the chest. The suspect was quickly transported to University Hospital for his injuries.

Members of the SAPD Shooting Team are currently investigating the shooting and will report their conclusions to the Chief of Police and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. As per procedure, the officer involved in the shooting will be placed on Administrative Duty pending the outcome of the investigation. The identity of the male suspect and officer involved will be held until next of kin is notified.

For Immediate Release